

A Study to Assess the Knowledge on Decubitus Ulcer and its Management among the Staff Nurses in Selected Tertiary Care Hospital of Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh: A Original Study

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Abstract

Introduction: The prevention and management of pressure ulcer can be a clinical challenge. Decubitus ulcer known as a pressure sore is a wound caused by protracting pressure against the skin. This may occur from disbursing period in one position, causing the weight of the body to compress capillaries against a bed or chair, especially over bony prominences.

Aim: The aim of the study was to assess the Knowledge regarding Decubitus Ulcer and its management among the staff Nurses and also to find out the association between the Knowledge regarding Decubitus Ulcer and its management with selected demographic variables.

Methodology: Types of studies- Descriptive survey design. **Types of Participants-** Staff Nurses. **Setting-** Selected tertiary care hospital of Moradabad. **Outcome-** Based on the findings and interpretation of the present study, the following conclusion was drawn that 24 (40%) had good level of knowledge and there is a significant association on level of education and working area with level of knowledge.

Keywords: Assessment, knowledge and Tuberculosis.

Introduction or Background

The person experiencing prolonged pressure is at risk of developing a pressure ulcer. Elderly have increased risk because of normal aging changes of the skin. The emaciated persons had little fat deposition at bony prominences and therefore are at risk of developing pressure ulcer. Obesity also is one of the factors that may contribute to pressure ulcer because the adipose tissues are poorly vascularized and more likely to develop ischemic changes. Other causes may include pressure that is caused by tight splint or cast, traction, or other devices.

For every 1,000,000 clients who developed decubitus ulcer, 65000 dies from impediment. (Agency for Healthcare Research Quality, 2008). An 80% increase in the number of clients who were hospitalized due to decubitus pressure ulcer from the year 1993 to 2006. (Agency for Healthcare Research Quality, 2008).⁹

A cross-sectional survey study was conducted to assess the Nurses level of knowledge on prevention and treatment of pressure ulcer among hospitalized patient

and also to found perceived barrier to prevention of it. A total number of 216 staff participated in this study from June-November, 2012. The study result found that mean knowledge score of participants was 41.6, SD 8.8 which signifies inadequate knowledge. Study result also found that lack of time, shortage of staff, patients condition, lack of resources and lack of equipment are that perceived barrier to for pressure ulcer prevention. Finally, the study has concluded that regular in-service education, proper pressure ulcer prevention guideline and use of risk assessment tools can improve the present condition of staff Nurse (Kharabsheh, Alrimawi, & Assaf, 2014)⁸

Another descriptive exploratory study was conducted in the surgical unit, medical unit and clinics of infectious and contagious plastic disease of a teaching hospital of Joao Pessoa, Brazil under a big project which aim was to describe the knowledge of Nursing professionals on prevention of pressure ulcer and their opinion on this. The study was conducted on 69 staff Nurses and Nursing assistant from January to June 2015. The data collected by using a self-administered

questionnaire consisting of questions on the knowledge of Decubitus Ulcer. The study result shows that Nurses have overall higher knowledge than Nursing assistance. The study also identified knowledge gaps about pressure ulcer and its prevention among staff Nurses but in study, 100% participant agree about prevention of pressure ulcer to decrease the length of hospital stay and reduce the cost of living (Rodrigues, et al., 2016).⁷

Ebi, Menji, & Hunde, 2017 conducted another cross-sectional survey study in four public hospitals of Addis, Ababa, Ethiopia to find out knowledge and perceived barrier about pressure ulcer prevention. A total number of 369 staff Nurses participated in this study from 21st April to 29th May 2015 and data was collected by administered self-reported demographic proforma, knowledge questionnaire and attitude liquor scale. The study result reveals that majority 236 (63.85%) of the staff Nurses has unsatisfactory knowledge about pressure ulcer prevention. This unsatisfactory result due to lack of learning resources to up to date their knowledge. The study also found the most common barrier to prevent staff Nurse is shortage of staff Nurse. Except for this lack of resources and availability of library are those another factor for the perceived barrier. Finally, the study has concluded that periodical in-service training and the educational program should conduct to enhance knowledge of staff Nurse.⁵

A descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted among staff nurses employed in selected tertiary care hospital in Khyber teaching hospital road, Peshawar to assess knowledge, attitude and practice regarding prevention of pressure ulcer from September-December,

2016. A self-administered questionnaire consisting of demographic proforma, knowledge questioners, attitude liqueur scale and statements regarding practice of pressure ulcer, was used for data collection. A total number of 100 nurses was selected by using convenient sampling method. Study result revealed that 42 (41.8%) has inadequate knowledge about pressure ulcer prevention but the majority of the staff nurse knows about contributing factor for developing pressure ulcer and critical determinant factor to observe. The study also revealed that only 35 (35%) staff nurse receives training for pressure ulcer. Finally, the study has concluded that in spite of adequate knowledge due to lack of in-service training, policies and guideline, evidence-based practice in clinical makes nurses not to incorporate their knowledge into practice (Muhammad, Ahmad, Khan, Ali, & Muhammad, 2017).³

Findings

Section 1: Description of sample characteristics

Majority of men participated in the study, 38 (63.3%) were Male, 51 (85%) belongs to 20-29 years, 36 (60%) are did a diploma in Nursing, 40 (66.7%) are trained about Decubitus Ulcer during In-service training, 30 (50%) had no previous knowledge, 26 (43.3%) are having 2-5 years and 31 (51.7%) are working in a general ward.

Section 2: Distribution of the level of knowledge among staff Nurses regarding Decubitus Ulcer and its management.

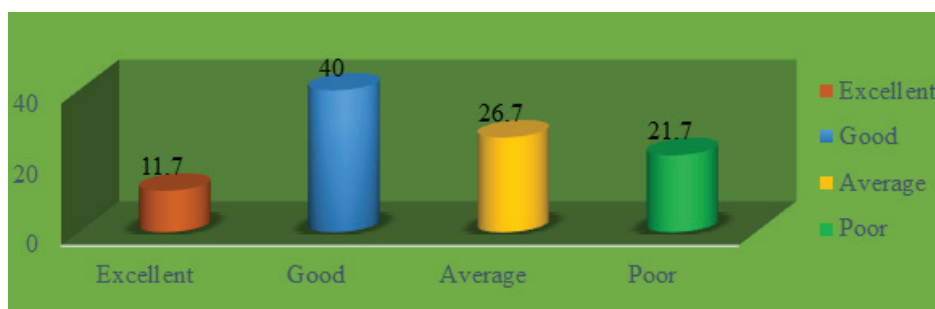


Figure 1: Graphical representation of staff Nurse by their level of knowledge

Cylindrical diagram showing percentage distribution of staff Nurse by their level of knowledge

Figure 1 shows that majority, 24 (40%) staff Nurse is having good knowledge on Decubitus Ulcer, 16 (26.7%) are having average knowledge, 13 (21.7%)

poor knowledge and 7 (11.7%) are having excellent knowledge.

Section 3: Association between the level of knowledge on Decubitus Ulcer and its management with selected demographic variable among staff Nurses.

Section 3 depicted the association of demographic characteristic of staff Nurse level of knowledge. It shows that there is a significant association for level of education and area of work with level of knowledge on Decubitus Ulcer hence, the null hypothesis is rejected and the research hypothesis is accepted.

Discussion

Findings of this study was supported by a cross-sectional multicentre study was conducted in Peshawar, Pakistan to find out knowledge and attitude of Nurses working in the neurology department of 6 tertiary care hospital. A number of total of 52 staff Nurse participated in the study and 2 standardized tools were used for assessing knowledge and attitude. The study result found that 16 (30.77%) had good knowledge, 13 (25%) had average knowledge, 9 (17.31%) had minimal accepted knowledge and 14 (26.92%) had poor knowledge while none of the participants had outstanding and excellent knowledge with a mean score of 28.35 ± 6.01 . The study result also reveals that the majority of the staff Nurses had a positive attitude to prevent pressure ulcer (Zeb, et al., 2015)²

Sawant & Shinde, 2017 conducted a descriptive cross-sectional study to assess the knowledge and practice of staff Nurses towards prevention of pressure ulcer in tertiary care hospital of Karad, Maharashtra. The study was included 193 staff Nurses was selected through convenient sampling technique. The result shows that majority 102 (52.8%) had good knowledge 89 (46.1%) had average knowledge and 2 (1%) had poor knowledge. Study also proved that only 93 (48.4%) have good practice for prevention of pressure ulcer. There was a significant association between level of knowledge among staff Nurses with age and educational qualification. Hence the study was concluded, the nurse's knowledge and practice towards prevention of ulcer only can be improved through the continuous education program.¹

One more descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted to assess the Nurses knowledge and practice regarding risk factors, prevention and management of pressure ulcers in a teaching hospital of Ugandan. A self-administered questionnaire and observational

checklist were utilized over 56 staff Nurses to collect data. The study results reveled that nurses had limited knowledge about critical parameters of pressure ulcers but the majority of them are aware to find out risk factor for pressure ulcer development. The study also found that less access to current literature, shortage of staff, pressure relieving devices unavailability and risk assessment tool are those barriers to manage a patient with pressure ulcer (Mwebaza, Katende, Groves, & Nankumbi, 2014).⁶

Conclusion

Finally, the study concludes that the majority 24 (40%) of the staff Nurses had a good level of knowledge and there is a significant association on level of education and working area with level of knowledge.

Source of Funding: Self-funding

Ethical Clearance:

- Prior permission was obtained from the Medical superintendent of Tertiary Care Hospital of Moradabad.
- Informed written consent was taken from each participant under the study. The objective of the study was maintained with honesty, privacy confidentiality and anonymity.

Conflict of Interest: Nil

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